(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the mistakes which include (i) 'Madagascar is an Island in the Arabian Sea'; (ii) The Czars is the name of dynasty'; and (iii) 'The Great Wall of China has been made of terra-cotta'; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) The task of writing textbooks in NCERT is undertaken by well qualified persons including the NCERT faculty and outside experts with requisite experience of teaching and or development of instructional materials in the concerned areas. The names of authors have been printed on the textbooks.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Errors relating to (i) and (ii) of part (b) have since been corrected by NCERT. However, in the relevant book of social science for class VI, it has been correctly mentioned that the tomb of an emperor containing an army of 8000 soldiers was made of Terracotta and not the Great Wall of China. Hence, no correction is required.

Discrepancies in population policy

2428. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Human Rights Commission has asked to explain certain discrepancies in population policy of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to review the National family welfare programme and policy to ensure that there is no violation of the spirit behind the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c), As per the information furnished by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, a notice was received from National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on a complaint filed by the "Centre for Women's Development Studies" in respect of Population Policy. It has been alleged in the complaint that the letter and spirit of the National Population Policy (NPP) is being violated in various ways and NHRC has been requested to take cognizance

of the violation and to direct States to strike down the provisions in their State Population Policy which violate the principles of NPP 2000. The Department of Family Welfare does not support the disincentives proposed in some State Population Policies as they violate the principle of National Population Policy, 2000. Minister for Health and Family Welfare, has, in his letter dated 2nd August, 2002 to Chief Ministers of all States/UTs emphasized the need for having a common conceptual framework while formulating State Population Policies and Strategies. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has already constituted a "National Level Resource Committee" vide order dated 8th March, 2002 to provide technical support to State Governments in formulation of State Population Policies in consonance with letter and spirit of the National Population Policy, 2000.

Vacancies in Kendriya Vidyalaya of Guwahati, Aizol and Silchar

†2429. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the subjects with regard to which posts are lying vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas of Guwahati, Aizol and Silchar, as on 1st January, 2001;

(b) what are the post-wise, date-wise details thereof;

(c) whether the above posts have been filled up till now, if so, what are the date-wise details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would take special steps for improvement in education in North-East area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) The details of post-wise, subject-wise vacancies in the Kendriya Vidyalayas situated in Guwahati, Aizol and Silchar stations are submitted in the annexed Statement. (See below) The dates on which these were filled also are shown against each.

(d) Action has already been taken to fill up the vacant posts expeditiously Advertisement for filling the vacancies by direct recruitment was issued in October, 2002.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.